The People's Korea

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Pyongyang Asserts Seoul Unfit for Olympic Games

Seoul is not suitable for the venue of the coming 1988 Olympic Games, said the official Korean Central News Agency, citing human rights violation, heavily polluted surroundings and the economic burden which would be imposed on the people there.

Its claim appeared in its three separate articles published on February 14 and 18.

Touching upon a total of more than 329,000 student demonstrators who clashed with above 1,842,900 riot police during the first five months of last year, the article said that the concept of "democracy" and "freedom" was already non-existent in south Korea.

"More than 145,000 tear gas canisters" were thrown against the protesters mainly in Seoul in the same period, added the report.

It presented an example of the Pope who suffered from lachrymatory gas in Seoul last year, and as another instance cited the case of last year's IMF attendants who "made much ado about tear gas leaking into the (hotel) rooms."

Expressing concern over increasing crampdown on dissidents' campaigns to collect ten million signatures for "constitutional" amendment, the Feb. 14 article claimed that the holding of the Games meant a mockery of their idea–to promote friendship and solidarity among sportsmen and contribute to the cause of the world peace through sound sports activities.

The other article appeared on the same day said the Summer Olympics would result in imposing a heavy economic burden on the people of south Korea, whose foreign debts averaged more than 369,000 won per capita at the end of 1985.

Due to Seoul's unpreparedness for the big event, which needs an enormous amount of money, the report noted, the total deficit would swell six times that of the 1976 Montreal Olympics.

"It is clear that this deficit will also be forced upon the people," it added.

In addition, the article bared Seoul's scheme to remove more than 30,000 houses on the plea of "beautification of the city" for the international event.

The KCNA in its Feb. 18 report underlined that the venue of the 24th Games should be shifted to somewhere else where proper conditions were guaranteed for athletes.

"The air of Seoul is so awfully polluted that I could not run well and, eventually, my record was spoilt," the article quoted a "world's well-known" marathoner. He fell short of his earlier records, hindered in his breathing, in a race held in Seoul, according to the story.

The agency said that pollution by sulphurous acid gas has grown treble the tolerable limit during the last two years.

"We feel our noses tingle and our heads ache. It is not a place for international games." It introduced the remarks of the head of the Sri Lankan basketball team in last year.

"Team Spirit" Linked with U.S.'s Global Strategy

Rodong Sinmun rapped the ongoing war game in south Korea in its Feb. 11 issue, saying that it is aimed to "attack socialist countries" with the Korean Peninsula as the "bridgehead," then to push ahead with American global strategy against socialism.

Noting the massive rehearsals' "anti-socialist and anti-communist" nature, the official daily said the importance of the peninsula in Washington's anti-communist strategy can be explained by the annual staging of the maneuvers over the past ten years.

The main point of U.S. strategy in Korea is to "keep a tight hold on it (south Korea) as an aggressive military base against the socialist forces," it added.

Washington, Seoul Accused of "Team Spirit"

Washington and Seoul are accused of conducting their combined maneuvers "Team Spirit 86" in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula by many countries and political organizations, including the Soviet Union, China.

Meanwhile, the Feb. 10 statement of the spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry, which said the war game would result in bringing the situation "to the extreme pitch of strain," was distributed as an official document of the United Nations Security Council on February 12.

Follow their remarks or statements in denunciation of the war game, as reported by the official Korean Central News Agency:

The USSR: According to a Tass report, a deputy director of the Press Department at a press conference on February 13 pointed out that such military action was contrary to the work for practically fixing the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit talks in Geneva.

Moscow hoped Washington and its allies would refrain from threatening sovereign states with a demonstration of their military power, he added.

Earlier, in an interview on February 10, Soviet ambassador to Korea stressed that the United States' start of the drills was an open challenge to the Korean people and all peace-loving people of the world.

Benin: President Mathieu Kerekou sent a message Jan. 29 to President Kim Il Sung, supporting Pyongyang's decision to stop major military exercises on the peninsula.

He said that this situation laid a grave obstacle in the way of the successful progress of north-south talks which started for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

Czechosolovakia: The CTK news agency in its statement published on February 10 denounced the maneuvers as "an open provocation", manifesting apprehension about the tension persisting on the peninsula.

The agency said that the exercises were an incomprehensible response to the constructive proposal of Pyongyang on discontinuing large-scale military rehearsals and a negation of the spirit of understanding and cooperation.

Ethiopia: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a war-game-condemning statement according to a report from Addis Ababa February 12.

Noting the "demonstration of strength" is directed against the DPRK, it said that the war game was aimed to bring to naught the Korean people's efforts for easing the tension and achieving the peaceful national integration.

PLO: The political bureau in a statement on February 9 said that it regarded the operational drills as an encroachment on the Korean people's sovereignty, act of aggression against the DPRK and part of the aggressive policy of the United States.

The statement called upon all forces of the world struggling against imperialism to denounce the United States' rampage ignoring the inviolability, security and sovereignty of countries and express solidarity with the Korean people in their persistent struggle against the repeated challenge.

SR-71 Conducts Aerial Espionage

The Americans committed espionage on the northern half of Korea by sending the reconnaissance plane "SR-71" deep into the air above the territorial waters of Kosong on the east coast of Korea on February 12 and then infiltrating it into the air above the coastal waters of the Kangryong peninsula on the west coast at around 13:35, reported the KCNA.

The U.S. sent the spy plane into the air above the territorial waters east of the DPRK on February 10, too, according to it.

Suppression and War Game: Chon's Middle Name

(See related photos and stories on pages 4 and 8)

A Western diplomat once said, "Chon lacks a strategic plan and has no political ability, so when things got heated up, the only thing left to fall back on was the hard-line approach." (International Herald Tribune, Oct. 2, 1985) So, Gen. Chon Du Hwan began to resort to strong-arm tactics. Both Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam, south Korea's outspoken opposition politicians, have been placed under house arrest. Two of them, together with more than 200 dissident politicians, signed the constitutional-amendment petition despite Chon's warning. The NKDP avowed to continue a signature drive seeking support for a constitutional revision to allow for a direct presidential election. Japan's leading daily Asahi Shimbun said in a Feb. 21 editorial: "...we cannot understand why, under a constitution which stipulates that sovereignty resides with the people, all drives to revise the constitution outside the national assembly are considered unconstitutional and why the people's right to petition is denied in this connection." Now the Chon Du Hwan junta is conducting a nation-wide attack on the opposition while staging the large-scale war game with the United States, aggravating the situation on the Korean Peninsula. Suppression and the war game seem to reflect the true intention of the man who loudly talks about "a first peaceful transfer of power in south Korea." Photo on the left is the NKDP leader, Li Min U, scuffling with police on Feb. 17 as he was forced into a car and taken away. Photo on the right is tanks and other military equipment being loaded onto the Newport class LST "Peoria" on Red Beach, Okinawa Japan on Feb. 8. They are to be used in the Team Spirit exercises.

Socialist Construction in DPRK

Capital Construction in Progress

Capital construction is progressing apace on a large scale in Korea.

NAMPO BARRAGE

A monumental edifice of the Nampo Barrage is being erected to dam off 8 kilometres of rough sea. The construction of major structures including main dam and locks except the final section have been finished in a short period and the project at the final stage are hastened.

The builders recently succeeded in disjointing the cofferdam and lifting up its structures and started the assembling of the sluice establishments of the locks Nos 2 and 3 on February 7.

The trial operation of the gate of lock No. 1 was carried out at the end of November last year.

Travelling bridges and sluice establishments of locks Nos. 2 and 3 weighing more than one thousand tons on the sea to draw them into the locks are floated and the first sluice downstream lock No. 2 was assembled.

The above-mentioned project is the last project in the assembling of the sluice establishments constituting the heart of the Nampo Barrage and is of weighty importance in successfully completing the building of the dyke.

With the acceleration of the assembling of the sluice establishments the Nampo Barrage is rising on 8 kilometer-long rough sea in all grandeur.

The first stage project of canal has started to feed the vast reclaimed tideland with the water of the River Taedong as the Nampo Barrage project has entered the final stage.

When the project is completed, the problem of watering for many tideland farms to be built in the reclaimed tideland, to say nothing of Onchon and Chungsan counties of South Pyongan Province and Nampo area, will be fully settled.

RAILWAY TRANSPORT

Laying new railways across steep mountains, the roadbed for the whole length of the northern railway lines have been completed. Big success in laying railways and building structures are made.

The 400-km long of railway lines are planned to be laid along the River Amnok and the River Dumang in the northern most area of the DPRK.

The first stage of the construction (200-km long new railway line from Unbong, Chagang Prov.– Hyesan, Ryanggang Prov.) had been completed. By the end of last year the 225-km long 2nd-stage roadbed construction between Paekam (Ryanggang Prov.) and Musan (North Hamgyong Prov.) was finished.

Now the expansion and connection work on the railway line and the construction of major structures for the northern railway line are underway.

When the northern railway line is completed, the development of the inland districts of the northern part of the DPRK will be accelerated. Development is expected of the iron, refining and mining industries. In addition, when the northern railway lines are linked with the neighboring railways, the east coast industrial districts, centered on Chongjin, will be connected with west coast cities including Sinuiju and Pyongyang

According to data available at the Ministry of Railways of the Commission of Transportation, 430,000 more tons of freight were transported than the rated haulage tonnage in recent ten days. Last year 25,658,000 tons of freight were carried outside the rated traction tonnage.

The Kaechon Railway Administration is topping the daily average of January last year by more than 2,000 tons by scrupulously organizing centralized transport.

The Hamhung Railway Administration is transporting 20,000 more tons of freight everyday than the rated traction tonnage.

The Pyongyang and Chongjin Railway Administrations are surpassing their daily transport assignments 30 per cent through an energetic increased transport drive.

POWER PRODUCTION

Large-scale industrial construction including the construction of the Taechon and Wiwon power stations are underway.

The Taechon Power Station will be the largest-scale power station in the DPRK, when its construction plan is completed. At present the No. 1 and 2 power stations and a 40-km long waterway are under construction. In February 1984, a 40-km waterway was completed. A new method for the development of water-power resources was introduced in this construction. The construction of the watersourse, now underway, aims at the expansion of the already completed 40-km long waterway.

The No. 1 power station of the Tanchon Power Station hits its January target at 80 percent, while the No. 2 station at 50 percent within a week.

The Pukchang Thermopower Complex, a leading power base of Korea, keeps production on the highest level since its commissioning by establishing a proper checkup and repair system of the generating equipment and controlling it on a scientific and technological basis.

The coal mines under the complex have markedly increased coal output to help keep the generating equipment in full-capacity operation.

The Pyongyang Thermopower Plant is overfulfilling its daily plans through a scrupulous organization of production from the beginning of January.

The hydraulic power stations across the country are increasing production by raising the efficiency of turbines and ensuring a high water-level operation.

Many hydraulic power stations have overfulfilled their January assignments. The Taedonggang Power Station had hit its January target at 155.5 per cent, the March 17 Power Station at 138 per cent and the Mirim Lock Gate Power Station at 167.5 per cent by January 28.

The construction of power stations is under way to satisfy the growing demand for electricity.

The construction of the Taechon Power Station, the Wiwon Power Station and the Sunchon Thermopower Plant will be accelerated and partially commissioned this year to create a new generating capacity of hundreds of thousands of kilowatt.

MINING INDUSTRY

The construction of coal mines is progressing at full steam along with increase of the immediate production in the domain of the coal industry.

In this domain efforts will be concentrated this year on the construction of coal mines in Anju, Northern, Sunchon and Kangdong districts with inexhaustible coal resources and favourable excavating prospect to put many coal mines into operation and substantially enlarge the production capacity of the existing coal mines.

The construction of coal mines was brisk in various districts last year, too.

Several shafts were built at the Anju District Coal Mining Complex. When the surface construction and the equipment assembling in pits for the commissioning of coal mines are completed at the Hwapung and Chongnam coal mines, this will create millions of more tons of coal production capacity.

The Anju district has set itself the target to raise the annual coal production to 70-100 million tons in the future.

The construction of the Hakdong, Hamyon, Soksong, Nongpo and Kukdong coal mines has been powerfully pressed ahead with in the northern district, with the result that thousands of metres of pits have been built.

Coal reserves for hewing for scores of years have been secured in this district through successful geological prospecting.

At coal mines of the Kangdong District Coal Mining Complex, pit construction has been energetically conducted to create an additional coal production capacity of 300,000 tons.

The Sunchon District Coal Mining Complex has also secured a firm guarantee for increasing the coal production.

In particular, the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine finished the construction of a belt conveyor pit with a capacity of 2.5 million tons.

The Kaechon District Coal Mining

(Continued on page 3)

The Puksae Street in Pyongyang under construction

"Great Leader Kim Jong Il" (2) Published Here

An English edition of "Great Leader Kim Jong Il" (2) by three Koreans was published in Tokyo in February.

The authors are Mr. Tak Jin, Kim Gang Il and Pak Hong Je. (Translated by Tayama Masaru).

The authors show in the Part II how Secretary Kim Jong Il has transformed Korean society rapidly since he was elected a political leader.

Part I was published last November (See No. 1,266 of The People's Korea).

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CORRECTION

As to the article headlined "Frankfurt Office for Korean Reunification Opened," which appeared on Page 2 of The People's Korea dated on Dec. 28, 1985, we received a letter from the "Korea Komitee" in West Germany.

According to information from West Germany, we inform our readers of the following:

As to the news on the opening of the Frankfurt office for Korean reunification, the office has not yet been opened.

Presently there is an organization named "Korea Committee in the Federal Republic of Germany and Berlin (West)" (Korea Komitee–in German). The major purpose of the organization "Korea Komitee" is to support the democratic movements in south Korea by giving true information regarding the situation in south Korea to the West German public. About the planned Olympiad in Seoul, the stance of the Korea Komitee is that it criticizes some aspects of the coming games. The organization stands against the Chon Du Hwan regime. We apology for our error–EDITOR.

Secy. of WPK, CC Supports Statements of KPA Supreme Commander, DPRK Foreign Min. Spokesman

Kim Hwan, member of the Political Bureau, and Secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, issued a press statement on February 13, firmly supporting the order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and the just stand of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea manifested in the statement of the spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry, the KCNA reported.

He pointed to the fact that the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army issued an order to the entire units of the armed forces including the People's Army and their men to maintain heightened revolutionary vigilance and the posture of combat mobilization in view of the grave situation created in Korea due to the start of the "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises by the U.S. and south Korean junta and the Government of the DPRK through a statement of the spokesman for the foreign ministry warned that if the U.S. and the south Korean junta persistently provoke a war of aggression, they will be meted out a determined punishment. He continued:

This is a legitimate measure of self-defence to counter the military provocation of the aggressors and a just measure for preventing the danger of another war and defending peace at any cost.

I firmly support the order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army and the just stand of the Government of the DPRK manifested in the statement of the foreign ministry spokesman.

As is known, our party and the Government of the DPRK have made all sincere efforts possible to remove the danger of war created in our country, defend peace and advance the hard-won dialogues.

Furthermore, our party convened the 11th Plenary Meeting of its Sixth Central Committee a few days ago even though the situation of the country was growing tense day by day and discussed important problems for the peaceful construction of the country.

The U.S. imperialists and south Korean authorities, however, answered such peace-loving efforts of ours with the start of the aggressive "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises in the end and met our repeated peace initiatives with the armed provocation.

Due to this, the multi-channelled north-south dialogues have come to a suspension, the situation is being further aggravated and a grave situation on the eve of war is prevailing on the Korean Peninsula.

I consider that the U.S. imperialists and south Korean authorities must bear responsibility for this.

Reality shows that the so-called "dialogues" and "peaceful unification" on the lips of the United States and south Korean authorities are merely a lie aimed to delude public opinion and what they really want is only confrontation, war and split.

Owing to the policy of war and fascism pursued by the U.S. imperialists and south Korean puppet clique, south Korea is now in a terror-ridden atmosphere of war and has turned into a cauldron of fascism where bayonets are brandished.

But the Chon Du Hwan puppet clique, trying to host the Asian Games and Olympic Games in this suffocating land, ridiculously preaches the south Korean people that for this they should put off their democratic demands and call for "constitutional amendments" and endure everything without consideration.

This cannot but be a mockery of the sacred Olympic movement whose idea is friendship, unity and peace and an insult to the south Korean people who call for freedom and democracy.

The U.S. imperialists and south Korean puppets must stop at once the criminal "Team Spirit 86" joint military exercises wrecking peace in our country and endangering peace in Asia and the world and put an end to the fascist suppression of the south Korean people.

Korea is one and our nation should live in harmony in one land.

The United States must clearly see this desire and will of our nation and withdraw its forces and nuclear weapons from south Korea.

Our nation does not want to see a fight among Koreans for the interests of the United States and wage a proxy war for it.

The south Korean authorities must ponder over the possible consequences of the war provocation manoeuvres going against the desire of the nation and act with discretion.

EDITORIAL

Has Marcos Really Won?

The fate of strongman Marcos, who has wielded power from the presidential Malcanang Palace since 1966, is now in the balance. Marcos, during his 20-odd years, has oppressed many Filipinos, allowing his own country to be used for U.S. military bases. So, the tainted re-election of President Marcos has resulted in digging his own grave.

In the past the widespread belief that Marcos ordered the assassination of his presidential opponent Benigno Aquino coupled with the fraudulent ways he has maintained power, has resulted in civil disobedience and international condemnation. It was as a result of this that he called the election, in the hope that a "victory" would allow him to strengthen and reshape his regime.

But the election was the most tainted one in history.

The questionable Philippine election has been outraged by widespread election cheating by Marcos supporters, including counterfeiters for bribery, vote buying, intimidation, outright fraud, bloodshed and substitution of polls.

The outcome of the election, which took a week after ballot counting, was released not by the election management organization but by the National Assembly of which the ruling party has an absolute majority. In spite of its disgraceful behavior, Marcos defeated the opposition candidate by the narrow margine of 1.5 million votes. Nine million votes, near half of the vote totals, were anti-Marcos votes.

Filipinos and international popular opinion have voiced the view that if the election and ballot counting had been held impartially, Aquino, the opposition candidate, would have won.

Therefore, after the election a tense and unstable situation developed in the Philippines immediately. Aquino supporters and anti-government forces rose in a campaign of boycotts and strikes, denouncing skulduggery at the polls and demanding Marcos' resignation.

As the National Assembly formally declared, in a final traversty of parliamentary procedure, that Marcos won an election victory, more than half a million Filipinos held a protest rally in a downtown park on Feb. 16. Since then countless Aquino supporters have been holding a "declaration meeting of Aquino's victory" at many places. Their numbers grow as do their frustrations.

Home and foreign press reported that the "anti-Marcos movement has been rapidly growing and the Filippines seems to be thrown into confusion increasingly."

Meanwhile, Filipinos feel that Marcos could not have sustained power without the support of the White House. That's the reason why anti-American sentiments shot up during the election.

The Reagan administration, in spite of condemned interference in internal affairs, moved to make both the ruling party and the opposition camp compromise, by sending an "observation group" and an "emissary," before and after the election.

For confining the growing anti-American sentiments, the Pentagon took these measures.

Washington has never helped democracy and development in the Philippines and is not likely to do so in the future.

President Reagan wants a stable political situation in the Philippines simply because of the two important U.S. military bases on the islands: Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Navel Base. Moreover, the Pentagon wants the Philippines to continue as an anti-communist nation so that the communist New People's Army (NPA) cannot infiltrate into the popular masses.

But there is no guarantee that the situation will develop as the U.S. expects.

The Reagan administration should learn a lesson from the interference policy toward the Philippines. Americans must stop interfering in the internal affairs of the Philippines and withdraw the two U.S. military bases, as they act as a factor in creating tension in Asia and the Far East.

The present situation in the Philippines shows that any dictatorial regime cannot escape severe judgement by the people finally.

Marcos must resign from the government at once as the people request.

The Korean people, especially the south Korean people, have witnessed Syngman Rhee and Pak Jung Hi, two dictators under the patronage of the U.S., met miserable ends, undergoing a trial by the people. All the more they feel sensitively that now Marcos is about to meet the same fate as them.

(Continued from page 2)

Complex built over 70 cutting faces last year.

All this proves that a firm guarantee has been secured to successfully attain the coal target of 120 million tons envisaged in the ten long-range objectives of socialist economic construction.

The Musan Mining Complex is carrying out its daily assignments of concentrated ore production at 120 percent by raising the utility rate of the mining equipment including excavators and revolving deep-boring machines.

The Musan Mining Complex fulfilled the January assignments by 100.3 per cent in total industrial output value, 100.2 percent in concentrated ores and 102.9 per cent in earth scraping as of January 28.

Last year, too, the complex produced over 1.3 million more tons of concentrated ores than the previous year through an energetic drive for increased production.

The project for expanding mines is now going on briskly. The builders are hastening on the final stage the construction of ore dressing chute No. 2 of the conveyer systems for the transport of scraped earth Nos. 4 and 5 and heightened the tempo of the project three times by introducing an advanced method in the construction of conveyer pit No. 3 for the transport of scraped earth.

Last year shaft pit No. 12, large compressor ground, the second-stage underground crushing site and the crude ore belt conveyer were put into operation and more than 50 big cutting faces were built to effect an upsurge in ore production from the beginning of the year at the Komdok General Mining Enterprise, a leading production centre of lead and zinc.

Over 30 ore cutting faces have appeared at the Hyesan District Mining Complex since early last year to boost non-ferrous mineral production.

In particular, many mines under the complex energetically expanded their capacities last year. The Hyesan Youth Mine expanded the basic pit of transport to make it double and introduced excavators in the 500,000 ton cutting face to increase transport capacity 1.7 times.

The Kaechon District Coal Mining Complex set itself the target of increasing capital tunnelling 9 per cent and coal production 21 per cent in the first quarter of the year as compared with the corresponding period last year and is overfulfilling their daily plans.

The Sunchon District Coal Mining Complex has of late boosted coal output 50 per cent above that at the beginning of the month, by lifting the output per cutting face.

A drive for increased production of minerals is energetically going on at the February Mine, the Ryonghung Mine and other mines under the provincial mining administrations.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The housing construction is under way on a wide scale. In Pyongyang the construction of the Puksae Street lined with multi-storeyed apartment houses for nearly 5,000 families and many public establishments is making headway at the final stage. The second stage construction of the Chollima Street and the construction of the Podunamu Street are also progressing apace.

A new modern street resembling a city will take shape in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang.

The street called Kwangbok will stretch 5.4 kilometres from the Palgol Bridge to the Mangyongdae fork of the road.

A streight road 100 metres wide with several large-scale intercrossing roadway bridges and underground passages will run through the street.

Nine housing estates will be formed on both sides of the road, where colossal high-rise apartment houses of 12, 18, 25 and 30 storeys of tower, folding-screen, semicircle and terrace styles for 20,000 households will be built to be harmonized with the natural scenery of high and low hills.

The 3- and 4-room flats heated by a central system will be equipped with complete sets of modern furniture and furnishings.

Each housing estate will have a nursery, a kindergarten, schools and public service facilities well built in peculiar styles.

The street will also have a students and children's palace 60,000 square metres in total floor space, an international hotel 30,000 square metres in floor space, a press club 25,000 square metres in floor space, and education, cultural and health institutions fully catering to the daily growing material and cultural needs of the population of the capital and specialised stores, restaurants and public utility facilities.

On the bank of the Taedong River opposite the housing estates there will appear a modern sports village with a building space of nearly one million square metres. There will be located a 30,000-seat stadium, a 20,000-seat outdoor ice rink, nine gymnasiums for different purposes with 2,000 to 3,000 seats, a number of football and tennis training grounds, a handball training centre, a sports hall, hotels, restaurants, clinics, stores, etc.

The Kwangbok street is drawing the attention of the people from the beginning of its construction for its very big scale and the peculiar styles and contents of the architectures.

The street linking the central part of the capital with Mangyongdae will add to the cityscape of Pyongyang.

Many dwelling houses are under construction in Nampo Municipality, Pyongsong, Tanchon and other local cities and farm villages.

Seoul Keeps Hard Suppression On Dissidents

270 dissidents detained or under house arrest

South Korean authorities are continuing their crackdown on opposition political leaders. It is reported that more than 100 opposition members were being held by the police for their part in a petition drive since Feb. 12 to revise the constitution while dissidents vowed they would continue the drive at "any cost".

Police said on Feb. 18 that 142 dissidents were taken into police custody, according to mass-circulation Japanese daily Yomiuri Shimbun.

An opposition spokesman reported on Feb. 20 that at least 270 people were affected by house arrest restrictions or police surveillance, including nearly 80 members of the national assembly, AP reported.

Li Min U, president of the NKDP, was also among those under house arrest.

South Korea's two best-known dissident leaders, Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam, remained under house arrest.

Kim Yong Sam said in his telephone inteview with foreign correspondents, "I have never seen this kind of unreasonable action by the authorities." He went on, "We will carry out the signature campaign despite any strong reaction from the government".

Police, in a massive show of force, sealed off the headquarters of the main opposition NKDP on Feb. 20 again, hours before a scheduled meeting aimed at pushing a drive for changes in the constitution, and 19 police buses along with other vehicles were counted parked on the main street outside the opposition headquarters and ranks of riot police, both plainclothes men and men in uniform, lined sidewalks and driveways. One police bus has a normal capacity of 40 to 45 men.

Some opposition leaders said the Feb. 20 police action reached a new high for moves against a legitimate political party.

Meanwhile, the Yonhap News Agency reported on Feb. 15 from the provincial capital of Taegu that police there had questioned five out of seven people who reportedly had signed petitions, indicating the campaign had reached local areas.

The increased steps by authorities to quell the opposition move began more than a week ago, when a signature-collection campaign was launched to support demands for constitutional changes that would provide for the direct election of south Korea's president.

The election issue is central in the clash between Gen. Chon and his opponents. It goes to the heart of the matter of power in south Korea.

The "government" has insisted on maintaining the current electoral-college system. Many in south Korea believe that the indirect system would give Chon the means to choose his successor.

After he took over in a 1980 military coup over thousands of the people's corpses, Gen. Chon rewrote the constitution to provide for an indirect electral system. He was "elected" under that system in 1981 in balloting that was widely regarded as little more than a show.

A member of the opposition New Korea Democratic Party scuffles with plainclothes policemen as he is arrested near the party headquarters in Seoul on Feb. 20. (Reuter-Sun Photo)

Police search campuses nationwide

In another tough step, police on the evening of Feb. 14 entered 111 universities in various places in south Korea and searched for documents relating to the petition drive.

Some of the placards read "Repeal the constitution" and "Long live democracy", police said.

Meanwhile, police on Feb. 15 sent to prosecutors the case of 189 students who have been charged with holding an "illegal" assembly to vow to help collect 10 million signature for the petition.

Fourteen more students have been arrested for planning to collect signatures on the street later this month, a police spokesman said.

The NKDP on Feb. 15 denounced severely the police's blitz search of universities across the land as "an act of destroying natural law."

NKDP spokesman Hong Sa Duk said, "If the police search was conducted with a court warrant, it is an act of destroying natural law capitalizing on positive laws, because it aimed to suppress public opinion for constitutional revision shown through the Feb. 12 elections (last year)."

In a statement, Hong said, "Our party does not want young students who will lead the future of the nation to be sacrificed any more in the process of the struggle for constitutional amendment."

If police confiscate signatures, we gather hundred times more: NKDP president

The main opposition NKDP on Feb. 17 decided to collect signatures from lawmakers' family members and secretaries in support of the revision to express its unyielding determination to go ahead with the drive, the Korea Times reported on Feb. 16.

The party spokesman Hon said the collection from families would be completed before a meeting of the party's central standing committee on Feb. 20. The decision was made at a meeting of party leaders which was presided over by its president, Li Min U. Before chairing the meeting, Li said firmly that his party will continue the nationwide drive in a nonviolent manner.

"If the police haul us away, we will let them do so, and if they confiscate the signature documents, we will gather even a hundred times more signatures."

He went on, "We will achieve this ourselves as politicians and fighters for democracy who have the responsibility for the movement."

Later, on Feb. 18, the party officials, after a top-level political affairs meeting, said the signature campaign, begun since Feb. 12, would be spread throughout the rest of the land, beginning on Feb. 20 through the party's provincial branches.

In another tough step, police on the evening of Feb. 14 entered 111 universities in various places in south Korea and searched for documents relating to the petition drive. (The Korea Times)

SDP Kicks Off Signature Drive

The Social Democratic Party, led by its chairman Kim Chol launched its own signature-collecting campaign for the revision of the constitution on Feb. 12, the party spokesman Shin Tae Ho said on Feb. 13, according to the Korea Times dated Feb. 14.

Shin said that the party would get signatures from the party officers and all members, numbering about 30,000.

"The signature-collecting drive, a natural right of the people, will continue until signatures from some one million people have been obtained in a democratic and peaceful way," he said.

S. Korean Diplomat 'Amok' in N.Z.

A senior south Korean diplomat, described as "extremely drunk and violent," was on the night of Feb. 14 dragged from his car and handcuffed after three motor accidents in the New Zealand capital, according to a AFP report from Wellington.

A senior traffic policeman described the man as "extremely drunk, violent and extremely dangerous."

Because of his diplomatic status, the Korean was later freed by the police.

Equipment Arrive for "Team Spirit 86"

(Yonhap Photo)

A U.S. helicopter was loaded off Regulus, a Military Sealift Command vessel, which arrived at the Pusan port on Feb. 13 to participate in "Team Spirit 86", U.S. and south Korean joint war training which started on Feb. 10 with more than 200,000 troops.

On the day, the U.S. shipped to the port large quantities of military hardware including 14 helicopters, 1,200 military vehicles and logistic equipment to be thrown into the war games, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Testimony of S. Korean Torture Victim (1)

Korea Communique; an English-language magazine published by the Japan Emergency Christian Conference on Korean problems, recently carried the testimony of Mr. Kim Gun Tae, Chairman of the Youth Federation for Democracy in south Korea in the first session of his trial in Seoul on last Dec. 19.

Kim reportedly revealed in his trial that he had been tortured many times last September with electric shock treatment, beatings and by being forced to drink water containing salted pepper in order to draw a political confession from him.

He also urged that confessions said to have been obtained under torture were as evidence for the prosecution.

He was arrested last August and charged with being a "wire-puller" of "communist-orientation."

Here is the full text of his testimony.

Kim Gun Tae:

During the month of September, I was tortured at the Anti-Communist Bureau offices of the National Police Headquarters, located in Nam Yong Dong. (Prosecutor objects.) The inhumane and illegal acts committed against me were a threat to my life and an affront to my dignity. The truth of this unbearable and unforgivable torture must be revealed. Otherwise we can never hope to eliminate such acts, protect human dignity and guarantee that justice will be served. Therefore, I request that this panel of judges conduct an investigation into the circumstances of my torture.

I am still suffering from the effects of torture. My head and back hurt very much and it is difficult for me to walk. I am unable to digest food properly and I cannot maintain my sense of balance. But the more serious effects are the psychological scars that remain after a month of torture. My sense of human dignity, self-esteem and self-reliance have been shattered. My faith and hope in human beings have been trampled upon. These serious psychological wounds that have been inflicted on me are a second reason why I ask the judges to investigate the details of my detention and treatment.

The third reason why I request such an investigation is that I was unable to meet with my lawyers until 10 days before the opening of my trial. This is not only a serious violation of my right to an adequate defense, but also an attempt to conceal the unforgivable torture inflicted on me. After I was indicted on Sept. 26, during the first part of October, each time my lawyers requested an interview with me, the prosecution demanded that I make a cout appearance, usually from 3:30-5:00PM. Four times I was taken to the prosecutor's office but was not able to meet with him and several times I was taken to his office even though he was not there. Based on these and other experiences, it seems clear that the prosecution was trying to hide the evidence of the torture I had been given: the prosecutor and some government officials decided between themselves that I would not be allowed to meet with my lawyers. What is even worse is that the concealment of evidence and the threat to my safety still exists.

After one torture session at Nam Yong Dong, I was in unbearable pain. (Kim appears dizzy and has difficulty breathing. He holds onto the rail of the witness box.) I tried to rest under my blanket but was awakened by some men who attacked me and crushed my heel. Latter, as my wounds began to heal, scabs formed and then began to fall off. This occurred from the beginning of October to the middle of November. I saved these scabs to present them as evidence needed in court. When I met with my lawyers Lee Don Myong, Mok Yo Sang and Jo Seung Hyong on Dec. 13. 4PM. I was so happy to see them and, thinking that by law I could submit freely any evidence needed for the trail. I asked my lawyers to enter the scabs as evidence of my torture. However, three guards immediately intervened and said that I could not give anything to my lawyers. As soon as I returned to the infirmary, ten men under the command of the Seoul Detention Center Security Director Song Sun Oong grabbed my pained body and took the scabs. "Stop it." I yelled. "I'll charge you with destroying evidence." But they overpowered me. This incident reveals not only that evidence has been destroyed, but also that my safety is still in serious danger. I appeal to you to conduct an impartial and thorough investigation into the period of my detention in order to reveal publicly the details of my torture.

Now I will describe briefly the torture to which I was subjected for one month at Nam Yong Dong. (The prosecutor objects. Some people seated in the courtroom shout "Criminals! Leave him alone!") Each time I think of this, I shudder with anger and humiliation. What the National Police Headquarters demanded of me was a "surrender." They said that they would break me and make me surrender and that is exactly what they did. They said that they were forced to torture me, and anyone else charged with violating the National Security Law, in order to discover my physical limitations and get a confession. Each time they questioned me about a new fact, they tortured me. Sometimes they put me in a position to receive torture and made me memorize and repeat what they wanted me to say. I am certain that my torture was a calculated, deliberate act. (The defendant looks very tired; he stops for a moment.) As they tortured me they demanded that I tell them three things: that I was a violent revolutionary, that I was a socialist and that the Youth Alliance for Democracy was formed after 1980 as a leading group within the democratic movement. In connection with this they wanted me to tell them the names of everyone who is operating in the various sectors of society... In other words, they demanded that I confess that I was the "superman" or ringleader of the Korean democratic movement and the anti-military dictatorship movement. They wanted me to tell them who among students, workers, politicians, dissidents, Protestants, Catholics, Americans, and people in the government was working with the democratic movement. I told them, "Only superman can tell you that." They responded by demanding that I give them the confession they wanted. I could feel only despair and anger against those who conducted this unforgivable torture. These people seemed like omnipotent gods who controlled my fate.

(To be continued)

1985: Beginning of S. Korean Economic Ruin (1)

Yu In Ho, a professor of Chungang University in Seoul recently wrote an article, titled "The time has passed that we can live with exports and foreign debts" which warned south Korean export-oriented economy is heading for a irrevocable collapse, and urged for democratization so as to extricate itself from the crisis.

He has been calling for the need to establish an "independent economy" in south Korea since the 1970s with Shin Yong Ha, a professor at Seoul National University and Pak Hyong Chae, Chief of the Institute for National Economy.

His article was carried in the February issue of Wolgan Choson, a south Korean monthly magazine.

Here is an excerpt from his report. (Translation, title and sub-titles are ours: Editor)

Export-oriented economy won't last

The south Korean economy has developed its export-oriented industries by heavily introducing foreign debts.

The expansion of exports and the accumulation of foreign debts are inseparably related to each other. An additional introduction of foreign debts has been necessary to increase exports, and an enlarged supply of foreign debts makes for an export increase.

To maintain this kind of economic system, foreign debts have to be introduced favorablly and export markets expanded.

As long as both these conditions are met, the economic scale and employment opportunities will be increased and a record of economic growth will be attained.

South Korea once tried to increase export independently during the 4th 5-year plan for economic construction from 1978 to 1981. But it resulted in a larger introduction of foreign debts.

According to this system of economic development, scale of foreign debts has been enlarged year after year with a remarkable increase in export, which made it possible for many people to set jobs, irrespective of their skill or ability.

Through this process, south Korea has been turned into an export-oriented economy which seeks capital, technology, materials and markets not domestically but from foreign countries.

The second "oil crisis" told her that the export-oriented economy wouldn't last any more.

Most dangerous economic area in the world

The rapid changes in the world trade situation in 1985 warned that the south Korean economic system with heavy foreign debts wouldn't be maintained.

The year 1979 was the year that put an end to the high growth and the 1985, the beginnings of ruin.

In other words, the two conditions are no longer provided to south Korea. We have to accept the fact that not one but both these conditions are no longer with us.

If we regard them as easy problems and avoid treating them seriously, bigger troubles will overtake us.

I will make a shocking revelation. On Dec. 23 last year, a world-known business information company "Frost and Sullivan" made public "dangerous areas over the world" expected in 1986, as it had done in the past.

On the list of dangerous areas from top to 7th, south Korea ranked first, followed by the Phillippines, Saudi Arabia, Greece, South Africa, Jamaica and Turkey.

Regarding Seoul's ranking, this research said that each of the economic conditions is worsening and the government cannot but forcing unpopular policy.

Apart from the question of whether this is believable or not, we have to understand that this is a foreigner's view of south Korea.

This research is also a guide to foreigners wishing to make capital investments in some country.

Due to the absence of these two conditions, many troubles are occurring in south Korea at the same time, but the authorities take no countermeasures against them.

South Korea has been so attached to the policy of developing export-oriented industries by borrowing foreign money that the supporters and the promoters of this policy who only know how to maintain this pattern, have no capability to make a plan to counter the crisis. Even if other people (who hold opposite views in the land) propose a new plan, they won't listen to it.

(To be continued)

Scheme to Organize "Civilian Defence Mobile Unit" in S. Korea

The south Korean home ministry on February 14 decided to organise the "civilian defence mobile unit" with 300,000 "civilian defence corps members" aged from 25 to 45 within this month and operate it from March, synchronizing with the start of the "Team Spirit 86" military exercises, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Serious Air Pollution Along Marathon Course In Seoul

Air pollution has become all the more critical in Seoul where the 1986 Asian games and 1988 Olympiad will reportedly be held, according to an AFP report from Seoul quoting data released recently by the south Korean environment agency.

The air pollution along the marathon course is 1.8 times the internationally recognized limit.

The air pollution of the players' village where south Korean players are now undergoing an intensive training is serious. According to the institute of physical science, if players undergo training for a long time at such places, they will be damaged physically.

Data submitted by the south Korean institute of environment show that harmful gas and smoke are heavily covering Seoul to cause respiratory diseases.

U.S. Report on Chon's Tyranny

The annual human rights report of the U.S. government made public on February 13 said that last year the south Korean authorities "responded heavily to the newly assertive opposition and the increased student activism, initiating a wave of repression of dissidents", according to a Reuter report from Washington.

Noting that "reports of torture or cruel treatment in 1985 increased significantly over 1984," it cited reports of torture by the police in September last year, outrages committed against three journalists on charges of "breaking an embargo on a news story".

Pointing out that "the use of excessive force by the police has proven to be a pervasive and ingrained problem," it said that "the expression of opposition viewpoints is limited, sometimes severely."

S. Korean Writer Discusses His View on Literary Movement From 60s to 80s

South Korean Literature and Its Mass Movement in '80s

One of the largest Japanese dailies, Asahi Shimbum, carried an article contributed by Hwang So Gyong, a prominent south Korean writer of today, under the title "South Korean Literature and Its Mass Movement in '80s".

Dividing the development of literary movements in south Korea into three period, the 60s, the 70s and the 80s, he particularly stressed the '80s when the popular masses actively began to take part in literary movements.

As one of the leading anti-government figures, he published his works with other prominent poets Kim Chi Ha and Ko Un in the now defunct quarterly "Changjak-gwa Pipyong" (Creation and Criticism) with its strong anti-government stance which played a key role in the literary movement in south Korea.

Introduced here is his article contributed to the Asahi Shimbun dated on Feb. 6:

"Profile of Hwang So Gyong"

One of the leading south Korean writers

- Age: 42
- Major Works: A long historical novel "Chang Gil San", "Children in the Dusk" depicting slums in Seoul screened. In Japan "Eye Ball of Camel" (South Korean Modern Short Novel–Shincho edition), "Birds of Molkewol" (South Korean Modern Literature–Collection of the Works of 3 Writers – Shincho edition), have been translated.
- A member of the representative committees of "the Literary Council to Practice Freedom" and "the Council of Mass Culture Movement". Last year, he published "RECORD OF KWANGJU MAY POPULAR UPRISING" (later banned)

It is impossible for us to talk about the literature movement in the '80s in south Korea without understanding the concept of the "Popular Masses" or the question of whether we live a conscious life as members of the masses or bury ourselves among the unconscious masses.

"'70S–ERA IN WHICH KOREA'S ORIGINAL VITALITY WAS ASSERTED"

South Korea in the '70s was in an age when the popular masses began to try to regain their own vitality after the base of traditional life had crumbled, and were led into a sever material civilization.

Workers (laborers) and farmers rose in protest af their workshops and intellectuals, students, citizens joined them.

In that age, we, men of literature, went out to meet students who turned workers, expelled professors, imprisoned journalists, and men of literature, clergymen who desired reunification of fatherland, farmers, workers, and poor men who were defending their rights to existense.

This fundamental change brought about by industrialization came into being inevitably as a result of south Korea's economic and military integration with foreign forces around the Korean Peninsula.

In the urban areas, concentration and monopolization, mass production and consumption, industrialism and decadent mass literature were promoted by the political and economic interests subordinate to the foreign forces.

In the rural communities, the foreign culture which gradually intruded into there, the urban civilization based on the industrialism of the advanced capitalistic countries, and the New Village Movement (Se Maul Movement) regarded as a movement for modernization completely destroyed the traditional domestic culture.

The "Cultural Movement of Popular Masses" which has begun from the '70s in various districts means challenge to comprador mass culture by world capitalism as symbol of super market.

The words "Popular Masses" came into being as a definition of this age. At the end of the '70s, the word "Popular Masses" became a practical ideology which included not only workers, farmers and the poor but also whoever wants democratization and reunification.

Finally, the "Popular Masses" was sublimated to the concept of "nation", and a will to reunify Korea, and was followed by "Sam Min Ju Wi"–Democracy, Popular Masses, Nation.

South Korean literature in '70s deepened the concept of "Popular Masses" through a self-revolution to combine traditional style with people's reality.

Therefore, south Korean literature in the '80s humbly should respond its literary task to people's effort to form the basis for a democratic movement.

The movement to cherish traditional culture once swept university circles from the late '60s to the early '70s, and later this wave spread from students and intellectuals to workers in workshops and farmers, and finally developed into a "cultural movement".

Especially, the centripetal force of the literary movement, the quarterly magazine, "Changjak-gwa Pipyong" (Creation and Criticism), and the formation of "the Literary Council to Practice Freedom" have further accelerated this change.

In the '80s, the formation of "the Council of Mass Culture Movement" inspired the change not only in literature but also in the whole range of cultural activities.

"MOUNTING DESIRE FOR SELF-EXPRESSION"

In literature, the masses of people have heightened their desire for self-expression, and their autobiographies, memorandums, letters, and songs play a role as living folklore, and folk songs, which are being accepted by the existing literary circles.

In the circles of fine arts and music, drawings and songs by unknown workers are giving a fresh shock to the art circles.

A new task has been presented as to how to dialectically integrate professional techniques with actual life together with the question of style and contents.

Since the Kwangju Popular Uprising in May 1980, the whole south Korean society has been experiencing the throes of change.

In the "mass culture movement," south Korean literature has been urged to change style content in practical works.

Such a combination of geners and their mutual penetration as seen in phenomena that the poems changed into popular songs, fine arts into epics, wood printings, cartoons, or posters, prose into Madangguk, and memorandums into fiction are inevitable results.

We desire earnestly that these kinds of style and content will contribute to a new world, and a new civilization as a characteristic new art of mass culture in the Third World.

This idea accord with our belief that people in the Third World will establish a method of scientific and rational national movements in the process of discovering their style of action.

In other words, people should develop their strength in depth, and liberate themselves in unexpected ways so that they may overcome an oppressive situation.

"WRITINGS THROUGH JOY AND PAIN"

We can say that the "Mass Cultural Movement" hasn't given in since the Kwangju Popular Uprising" of May 1980, but it has developed into maturity as a wave of national reunification.

A new mass culture in the '80s has been built gradually by the unknown masses on the soil of those who monopolize and check culture.

The circumstances around us more clearly reveal the comprador nature of our culture in the name of internationalization and progress. So we should struggle against this situation with all our might.

It is a heavy task imposed on our generation to carry on our cultural movement on the Korean Peninsula.

We are convinced that we can give the authorities concerned who are responsible for the division of our country a world view which would make them return to the basic harmony of life, if our effort for national reunification is made faithfully and practically.

In this sense, south Korean literature exist in the great era of world history. Writers and poets engaged in "literature in the divided age" feel joy and pain in writing itself.

*Madangguk – a new creative festival dance to express people's feelings, making use of traditional festivals in regional communities.

The Federation of Korean Traders And Industrialists in Japan Marks 40th Anniversary

A meeting marking the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Federation of Korean Traders and Industrialists in Japan (February 26, 1946) took place on February 12 in Tokyo.

At the meeting a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on awarding the order of national flag first class to the Federation was read out and Han Duk Su, Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), conveyed the diploma of the order of national flag and the order.

Chairman Han Duk Su in his speech pointed out that during the past 40 years the organizations of traders and industrialists and Korean traders and industrialists under Chongryun have achieved successes in the patriotic work for the socialist fatherland and for national reunification, and stressed:

At present Korean traders and industrialists in Japan should bring about a great turn and upswing in all patriotic work with the approach of the 14th congress of Chongryun.

A letter to President Kim Il Sung was adopted at the meeting.

It also adopted a letter to south Korean entrepreneurs and a petition to the Japanese Government.

Third Feb. Musical Eve Held

A musical evening was presented on Feb. 19 in Shinjuku, Tokyo, performed by 11 artists from Korea, Japan, China and Hungary.

The third "February Musical Evening" was sponsored by the executive committee of the February Musical Evening and co-supported by the Union of Korean Writers and Artists in Japan and the Association of Japan-Korean Cultural Exchanges. It was the first time that the concert was attended by Chinese and Hungarian artists together with Korean and Japanese in its three-year history.

Korean performers in Japan included the DPRK People's Actress Chang Hae Wol, People's Actor Chin Re Hun, and Chon Wol Son, a new promising opera singer. The Japanese artists were violinist Kobayashi Takeshi, who also attended the Friendship Art Festival for Spring held in April 1985 in Pyongyang; Takahashi Aki, a pianist; cellist Yasuda Kenichiro, clarinetist Matsushiro Teruaki and Shintani Noriko, a singer. A well-known PRC singer, Li Mu Ran, Hungarian pianist Kiss Gyula and flutist Kobacs Lorant were also there.

Along with the characteristic Korean music and western classics, avant-garde music was presented by "the Peace," trio–Kovacs, Matsushiro and Kiss, while Takahashi Aki performed a piano suite which was dedicated by Yun I Sang, prominent Korean composer in West Germany who was once arrested by the south Korean authorities on charges of "espionage activities".

A congratulatory telegram was sent to the concert by Nagasu Kazuji, Governer of Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan.

The curtain was raised and fell together with traditional Korean dances by the Tokyo Korean Song and Dance Troupe.

Trio "Korean Dance Music" by Kovacs, Matsushiro and Kiss.

Seized '86 Calendar of UMMDU

"Twelve Arenas of National Art" (2)

Taedong Society by Hong Song Dam

(Continued from No. 1,278 issue)

Against Injustice

The situation in south Korea of late has been changing rapidly towards realization of people's wishes–democracy and reunification.

In January this year, Rev. Mun Ik Hwan, a prominent Protestant clergyman and chairman of the United Minjung (the masses) Movement for Democracy and Unification (UMMDU) which published the calendar "Twelve Arenas of National Art", was sentenced to 10 days' detention after making a speech at a rally in Taejon which criticized the south Korean authorities and demanded a democratic constitution.

South Korea's first opposition party New Korea Democratic Party on Jan 12 launched a 10-million Signature Collecting Campaign and is vigorously waging the struggle despite the fact that south Korean leading dissident Kim Dae Jung, co-chairman of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, has been put under house arrest for signing the petition for constitutional amendment. One thousand south Korean students in Seoul held rally against the present "constitution". Their struggle will continue until they win their aims–liberty, equality and happiness for all the Korean people.

For "Taedong"Society

In Korea, the four words–equality, unity, prosperity and peace–can be expressed in one word– "Taedong". Now, all the Korean people wish for Taedong society. The starting point of the recent active struggle in south Korea for democracy and reunification is the April 19 Incident of 1960 and the Kwangju Popular Uprising in May 1980.

Especially, what happened in Kwangju on May 17-23 that year was not just a mere incident or uprising. Though the uprising was finally put out by the force of the "government", the unity and ardent wish of the Kwangju people for peace showed them what a new "Taedong society" was. Through the incident, which happened in the period of division, they obtained a glimpse into reunification on a small scale.

Hong Song Dam, the painter of "Taedong Society" (55x42cm) must have had the same feeling, for in his picture, all people have radiant expressions on their faces, peaceful and fully confident of their victory.

Young men in the picture are all triumphant and holding up their guns to the sky. A woman who has brought food, is serving it. A man holds a small girl in his arms and another man is caressing her. This peaceful scene took out of the gory 6-day incident gives rather shocking to the people.

The painter is known as woodblock painter and painted the picture in water colours on a rubber block. He once had his woodblock paintings printed in other calendars and is one of the leading painters of the Minjung (the masses) Art.

Picture on a Rice Bag

South Korean farmers also want "Taedong Society". For, farmers have suffered most under the "modernization" policy followed by the authorities since the seventies. Countless farmers have been forced to leave their land to join the city poor or remain on their farm land with heavy debts.

Therefore, the famous Korean saying "Nongja-Chonhachidaebon" (farming is essential for the living of all the people) has long been dead in south Korea.

"Second Nongja-Chonhachidaebon" (104x70cm) was painted by Li Jong Gu in oils not on an acryl canvas but on a rice bag used for delivering rice to the government. It is these bags, that the twelve-month fruit of farmers is put to be sold at a bargain. The bags are stained with the blood and carry the grudges of the anti-people policy of the "government".

The face of the farmer painted on the bag appeals in silence and shows us the fundamental contradiction of the society, saying, "People say farming is essential for the living of all the people. And we farmers work hard. How come we live in poverty and misery?"

Li Jong Gu himself is a farmer's son. The banned quartery "Shilchon Munhak" (Practical Literature) published in Spring, 1985, printed Li's "New Nongja-Chohachidaebon". In "New Nongja", he painted his family on a paper bag used to deliver rice to the government.

In this way, Minjung Art painters are always involved with lower class people such as workers and farmers and boldly express their rage and wishes.

Sorrow, Rage and Warning To the Society

"Loan Words" (55x35cm) painted by Pak Bul Tong in collage is peculiarly different from the other 11 paintings.

A strange young woman is about to enter a cracked wall. Her hair-do and the dress are completely effected with western culture. Beyond the wall, an old Korean woman is standing alone watching the young woman with a suspicious look.

Her expression unmistakably appeals to us is about her discontent with and fear of the loan culture and "loan words" which are erroding Korean's national culture and national consciousness.

Painter Pak Bul Tong, who sharply criticized the corruption of the south Korean society, was once arrested on charge of "spreading false rumours" as he presented his works to the "1985 Korean Art" exhibition at which 7 of his works exhibited there were confiscated.

The Modern history of the Korean Peninsula is compressed into the picture "Modern Korean History" (260x 130cm) painted by Shin Hak Chol in oils on a canvas. An ugly and dreadful deformation in his picture appeals to us about the painful history of our nation. He unites different fragmentary images–images of military power, economic invasion and the stark historical reality–into a monstrous fratricidal war by which it appeals to our instinct makes us realize the danger we face.

Shin is also a Minjung Art painter and had his work "Mirage" printed in the spring edition of "Shilchon Munhak" in 1985.

The "Twelve Arenas of National Art" also has "Oh, Lake Chon-ji!" painted by Mun Yong Tae, "Wish for Reunification" by Duron, "Packed Bus" by Civic Art School, "Lunch Time" by Hwang Jae Ryong and "Tonggun Militiamen Eats Rice Cakes" by Li Chol Su.

(Concluded)

Modern Korean History by Shin Hak Chol

Loan Words by Pak Bul Tong

Appeal by the IOJ General Secretariat

The Prague-based International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) has recently decided to hold the IOJ's ordinary congress in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia from October 20 to 23, 1986.

This was made clear in an appeal adopted by the IOJ Secretariat in late December 1985.

Follows the appeal:

The IOJ General Secretariat states with satisfaction that following the decision on holding the IOJ 10th Congress in autumn 1986, taken by the IOJ Presidium in Quito in summer 1985, the Union of Bulgarian Journalists expressed the wish to host the congress in Sofia, capital of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The 10th Congress will be held in the year in which we shall celebrate the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the IOJ (June, 1986), an organization that groups more than 200,000 professionals of the print and electronic media and news agencies from various countries of the world.

This event marks a significant point in the history of the democratic journalism throughout the world.

The congress will make an assessment of the IOJ's activity since the 9th Congress, of the results of the struggles waged throughout 40 years of its existence for the ideals of peace, freedom, progress and democracy.

In starting up the preparation for the 10th congress, the IOJ bases itself on the Orientation document adopted by the 9th Congress in Moscow and on rich experience gained by the IOJ member organizations and all progressive journalists of the world.

The IOJ General Secretariat calls on all member organizations, national groups and IOJ individual members to widely commemorate the IOJ's 40th anniversary and to actively engage in the congress preparations in any form that suits them.

To serve the peoples – this is the foremost task of the progressive journalism.

All the peoples of our planet desire first of all to avert the danger of nuclear war, to put an end to the arms race, to liquidate all forms of colonialism and racism and to develop a process of international detente, to secure economic, cultural, scientific and sports exchanges mutually advantageous and to develop information exchanges.

The IOJ's 10th Congress has to contribute to seeking solutions of all these serious problems.

The Biggest Sham in Electoral History

By Paul Calvey
Special to The People's Korea

Marcos has done what the world believed he did not have the arrogance to do. Fix the Philippines presidential election. Even the U.S. who has a vested interest in the stability of the Philippines and the continuence of an authoritarian regime has been stunned by these blatant acts of skullduggery by Marcos and his henchmen.

After 20 years practice he has given the world an elaborate demonstration of terrorism and electoral fraud at the lowest possible human level.

Newspapers and periodicals around the world have catalogued so many examples of blatant election rigging that it would take the whole page to list all the violations reported.

Marcos never had any intension of giving power to the charismatic housewife Mrs. Corazon Aquino, who, driven by her conviction that Marcos was responsible for her husband's assassination, has championed the democratic cause and continued her husband's crusade to remove this despot from office.

During the election, as the independent National Movement for Free Elections predicted a landslide victory for Corazon Aquino, Marcos implied that he might reimpose martial law, arrest his opponents and call the whole election off. "These are matters which I have thought seriously about," he warned. "I'm trying to play it by ear."

Marcos has been a strongman for 20 years and could not face the humiliation of being ousted by an inexperienced woman whose only motivation is a desire to free her people from tyrany.

Now nothing is certain in the Philippines. The fact that U.S. Commanders in the Pacific have already drawn up plans to defend their two large U.S. installations there, is indicative that bloodshed is the expected outcome of this episode.

Comments from senior members of the Reagan administration and the Pentagon reveal that the U.S. is sick of Marcos and wishes they could remove him quietly.

Having tampered with the democratic process to such an extent that it no longer exists in the Philippines, Marcos has outraged and frustrated the people, and united them as never before, in their detestation of his regime.

As the passions of the people continue to grow Marcos will have to use the police and military with increasing assertiveness as he struggles to cling to his crumbling supremacy. On top of this he has the New People's Army to contend with, which, U.S. intelligence sources estimate, is 25,000 strong.

Under this tremendous pressure Marcos is now capable of anything. His matcho image has been shattered, and like Nixon at the time of Watergate, he should not be in control of a car, never mind a country.

Corazon Aquino's conviction that if she won she would bring Marcos to trial for any crimes he may have commited, has only hardened the dictator's resolve to cling to power, no matter what the cost.

As the Economist pointed out, in order to ease the transition to democracy "it is usually advisable for aspiring rulers to let a dictator be peaceably reunited with his Swiss bank account instead of put in jail or shot."

The Philippines are lucky that they have a presidential candidate as pure in spirit as Corazon Aquino, who will, no doubt be instrumental in ushering in a period of democratic reforms after Marcos is deposed. As he inevitably must.

Marcos should have adopted this well-known saying as his maxim.

"You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time; but you cannot fool all the people all of the time." –Abraham Lincoln–

Mr. Paul Calvey is a British free-lance journalist based in Hong Kong.

Cracking the Whip

The following are excerpts from a story in Far Eastern Economic Review, February 27, 1986:

The South Korean Government's current crackdown on dissident activities by students and the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) has included an element of panic that does not bode well for the country's political stability.

Faced with an NKDP signature drive seeking support for a constitutional revision to allow for a direct presidential election, the government has denounced the drive as illegal and raided NKDP offices and dissident groups' headquarters in search of materials related to the drive.

In six days of incidents across the capital, opposition leaders Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam were put under house arrest, their homes surrounded by hundreds of riot police, and at least 80 of their followers from the NKDP and the oppositionist Consultative Committee for the Promotion of Democracy (CCPD) were arrested.

Police also raided more than 100 universities across the country in search of materials related to the signature campaign.

The NKDP's signature drive has been in the works for several months. A year ago, party candidates in their first national assembly election pledged to put the constitutional revision at the top of their agenda. Under the existing constitution, which was created in 1980 soon after President Chun Doo Hwan came to power, a president is to be chosen by an electoral college when Chun's term is up in early 1988.

However, the NKDP has failed in its increasingly desperate efforts to debate the revision in the assembly with Chun's Democratic Justice Party (DJP). The DJP refuses to discuss the issue and Chun, in a New Year's speech, called on the opposition to postpone debate on the issue until after the 1988 succession and the staging of the Seoul Olympics in the same year. But he warned that politicians who "ignore the parliament and resort to illegal means. . .ought to be prepared to face stringent public judgement in one form or another."

When the signature campaign was launched on 12 February, on the first anniversary of last year's assembly elections, opposition leaders said they were confident of getting 10 million signatures by 15 August – South Korea's Independence Day. Kim Dae Jung, co-chairman with Kim Young Sam of the CCPD, a coalition of extra-parliamentary oppositionist, told the Review: that we can reach our goal because our commitment is so deep. "The government," he said, "is not confident, because they know a huge number of people agree with our cause."

The next day, Kim Dae Jung's house was surrounded by hundreds of riot police and his telephone was cut. Attempts by 150 of his supporters to enter Kim's home ended in fights with the police, who later briefly detained 16 of them – including Kim's brother. Speaking at a press conference, Justice Minister Kim Seung Ky hinted that the government might reimpose a suspended 20-year jail sentence for sedition of Kim, who is officially banned from politics, "if conditions warrant that."

Also on the morning of Kim's house arrest, police descended on the CCPD's offices. Prevented by the authorities from entering the offices, Kim Young Sam spent nearly five hours in the street protesting against the action, describing the government's tactics as "virtual martial law." He was finally dragged into a car by police and driven to his home where, some days later, he was put under house arrest.

Also on 13 February, police raided the NKDP's party headquaters in search of the petition or related materials. Police initially barred NKDP members – including some assemblymen – from entering their offices, and a number of NKDP and CCPD members were detained. Although no assemblymen were detained, NKDP leader Lee Min Woo was one of several assemblymen questioned by police in their homes. The government says the assemblymen are not breaking any law by signing the petition. However, the authorities say they plan to question all signatories.

Anti-dissident police activity on university campuses, which are closed for winter recess, has also been stepped up. On 15 February, the authorities made a nationwide sweep of 129 colleges and universities, reporting that they had confiscated subversive literature, placards, knives and fire bombs. Earlier the police surprised by the size and ferocity of a rally in support of the proposed constitutional revision at Seoul National University, clashed with the 1,000 student demonstrators.

A recent police statement said 449 students were arrested in the first 40 days of this year – more than twice the number in the first eight months of last year. Police say they are seeking about 40 student activist leaders, and they have been searching for them in their homes and in inns near the campuses. Rewards of Won 200,000 (US$220) are being offered for information leading to their capture.

While the government says signing the constitutional-revision petition is not illegal, it argues that the petition itself does violate the law. The justice minister called the petition effort a "camouflaged act of violence discarding constitutionalism and parliamentary democracy." Although the constitution recognises the right of citizens to organise and sign petitions, such is not the case when the petition is aimed at changing the constitution itself, the government says. Petitions, it argues, can only question existing laws or policies of government agencies – only the president of majority in the national assembly can change the constitution.

The Supreme Prosecutor's office announced on 11 February that persons involved in the signature campaign could be charged and sentenced to up to seven year's imprisonment under a number of laws, including those which forbid public assembly and obstructing road traffic. "They are interpreting the law according to their own will," complained NKDP spokesman Hong Sa Duk.

Commenting on the government's move against the signature campaign, a US State Department spokesman said at a recent briefing in Washington: "We believe that it is inconsistent with basic democratic principles to deny citizens the right to petition their government."

For the government, the risks are high: the tougher it gets, the more united the opposition – politicians, students, Christian activities and labour – may become. The goal of 10 million signatures in six months, almost half of the electorate and a quarter of the population, is high and the machinery for gathering them is uncertain. But the unifying effect of the campaign could be marked.

A year ago, the NKDP was able to garner just under 30% of the vote in the assembly elections only a month after the party's formation. Since then, students and other activists have become impatient with its failure to achieve its aims in the assembly. The signature campaign is likely to become a burning issue on campuses during the coming term, bringing the NKDP closer to its more radical supporters while at the same time drawing the political limelight away from the national assembly.

Kim Young Sam said only about 200 signatures were collected before the government's crackdown, most of them from NKDP and CCPD members. Collecting more, he said, has become impossible, but he added: "This is not a difficult problem. Although the numbers are still small, the impact has been huge – people can see for themselves how violent this government can be."

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